

Sixth Form: Home-School Agreement (2015/2016)

Together we will:

- ensure our students reach their full potential;
- provide a safe and secure environment where our students can grow and develop;
- establish open and respectful communication;
- share common goals and expectations for our students;
- enable our students to make their needs known;
- enable our students to know right from wrong;
- develop consistent approaches for addressing behaviour issues where appropriate, and;
- encourage our students to value and respect people from all cultures and communities.

The University of Birmingham School will:

- treat everyone with respect;
- care for our students as individuals and be available to parents and carers to discuss and help;
- care for all students' safety and happiness within a supportive community, where acceptance is granted to all, where indifference, discrimination and bullying have no place and where the fostering of good relationships and the development of self-worth are valued highly;
- provide a firm but caring and fair discipline framework within school, which expects all students to develop self-discipline and respect for others;
- provide a high standard of teaching and the expectation that all students should make the best possible academic progress;
- deliver a learning environment where the relentless pursuit of excellence is everyone's objective and where students are encouraged to show resilience and determination in order to take advantage of the education opportunities available;
- provide a broad and balanced, but challenging curriculum that will develop the whole person, and so prepare our students not only for academic success, but also for the world of work and participation as engaged and flourishing citizens within society;
- provide each student with an information, advice and guidance programme to help them achieve their potential and ambitions;
- respond to communication from parents and carers as soon as possible but within two school days;
- set, mark and monitor classwork and homework on a regular basis and provide feedback on academic and personal progress;
- recognise and celebrate effort, progress, attainment and contribution to the School and wider community;

- apply the School's Policies where behaviour falls short of the School's expectations;
- communicate regularly with parents and carers to inform them about the life of the School, the academic progress of their son/daughter and also about any concerns or problems that might affect their son/daughter's work or behaviour;
- prioritise the welfare of your child and therefore there may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures we will follow in such cases have been laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board. The School's Safeguarding Policy is available on the School website.
- make dynamic or planned risk assessments to help keep all children safe in the event that there is a risk of children being involved in:
 - ✓ self-harming,
 - ✓ causing injury to other children, staff, parents and visitors,
 - ✓ causing damage to property.

In such cases staff may feel the need to be involved in situations as part of the duty of care under the 'Children Act of 1989 in order to secure the welfare of pupils. The Care and Control Policy is available on the School website.

- provide opportunities for parents and carers to become involved in the life of the School and to be consulted on significant changes;
- provide enrichment activities as part of the extended school day and offer opportunities for students to participate in including lunch-time/after school clubs, sports teams, and educational visits both within the UK and abroad;
- provide a welcoming environment for families and ensure their knowledge, expertise and opinions are valued;
- listen and respond as quickly and effectively as possible to the views and concerns expressed by parents, carers and students.

Parents and Carers - I/we will:

- ensure that my son/daughter arrives at school on time, properly equipped for lessons and dressed according to the School's Dress Code;
- support the School's policies and guidelines for dress code and behaviour;
- inform the School about any concerns or problems that might affect my son/daughter's work or behaviour;
- support the School's attendance policy, particularly with regard to taking students on holiday during term time;
- encourage my son/daughter to complete all homework set, and to do so to the best of his/her ability;
- respond to communication from staff;
- attend learning review meetings and other meetings about my son/daughter's progress;
- get to know and take an interest in my son/daughter's life at school;

- read all communication from the school and ensure that the relevant documents are returned promptly (this includes data checking sheets, detention letters, appointment times for learning review meetings and letters concerning school events that require a parent or carer signature);
- agree to use School procedures when making any complaint and refrain from using social networking sites to discuss sensitive issues about the School;
- inform the School as soon as possible of changes to the information contained in the School's Date Information Form;

Students – I will:

- when fit to do so, attend every day expecting to work hard;
- arrive at school on time, prepared and organised for all my lessons;
- be ready for lessons, on time and with the correct equipment;
- demonstrate politeness, care, concern and respect for all other members of the school and members of the general public;
- follow the School's Behaviour Policy and Dress Code at all times – in school, travelling to and from school, on school trips and residential visits;
- do all my classwork and independent study as well as I can;
- do all the work set by the deadline and to the best of my ability, seeking to extend myself through additional effort, reading and research;
- let someone at school know if I have any concerns;
- take advantage of all opportunities offered to me by the School, both within and outside lessons;
- adopt a positive attitude towards, and participate fully in, the life of the School;
- play my part in keeping the school buildings, furnishings and site in good order, in particular, free from litter and graffiti;
- take good care of the books, resources and equipment which I use, and;
- be responsible when required, for taking communications to and from school.